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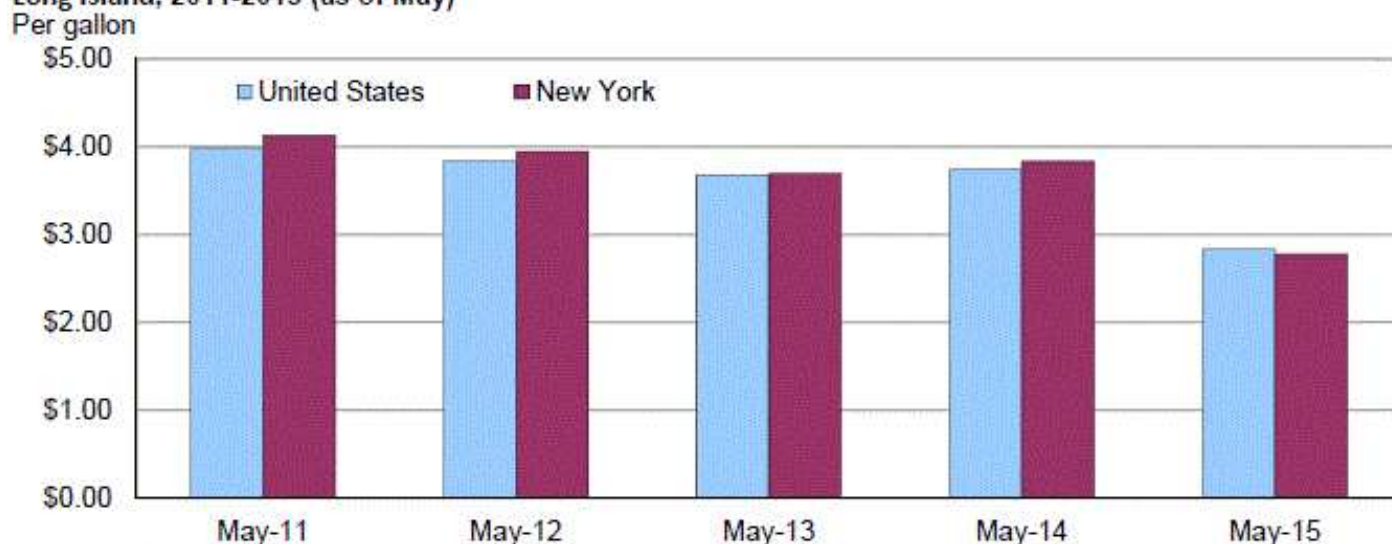
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## Average Energy Prices, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island – May 2015

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.778 per gallon in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area in May 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that gasoline prices were down \$1.057 compared to last May when area households paid \$3.835 per gallon. The average price of utility (piped) gas, at \$0.980 per therm, was also lower than the \$1.195 per therm spent last year. Electricity prices averaged 19.2 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh), down from the 20.5 cents per kWh paid in May 2014. (Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year-analysis is used throughout.)

At \$2.778 a gallon, the price of gasoline in the New York area was similar to the \$2.832 national average in May 2015. A year earlier, consumers in the New York area paid \$3.835, close to the national average of \$3.745. For the past five years, the local price of a gallon of gasoline has been within 4 percent of the national average in the month of May. (See [chart 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, the United States and New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, 2011-2015 (as of May)**

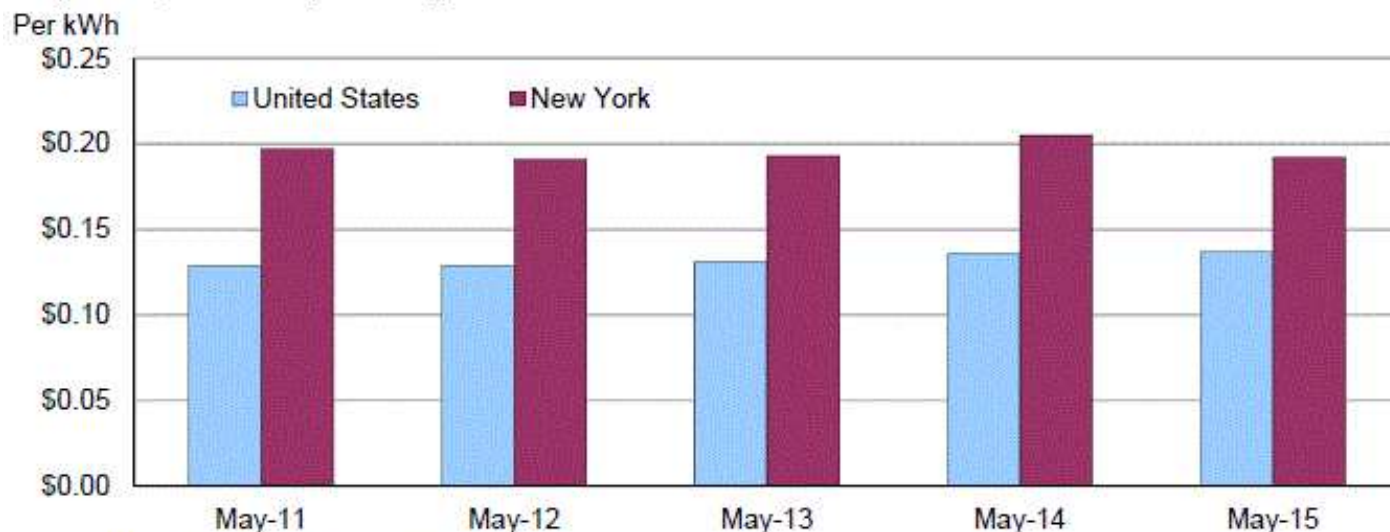


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 19.2 cents per kWh New York households paid for electricity in May 2015 was 40.1 percent more than the national average of 13.7 cents per kWh. Last May, electricity prices were 50.7 percent higher in New

York compared to the nation. In fact, from 2011 to 2014, local area electricity prices in May exceeded the nationwide average by at least 47 percent. (See [chart 2](#).)

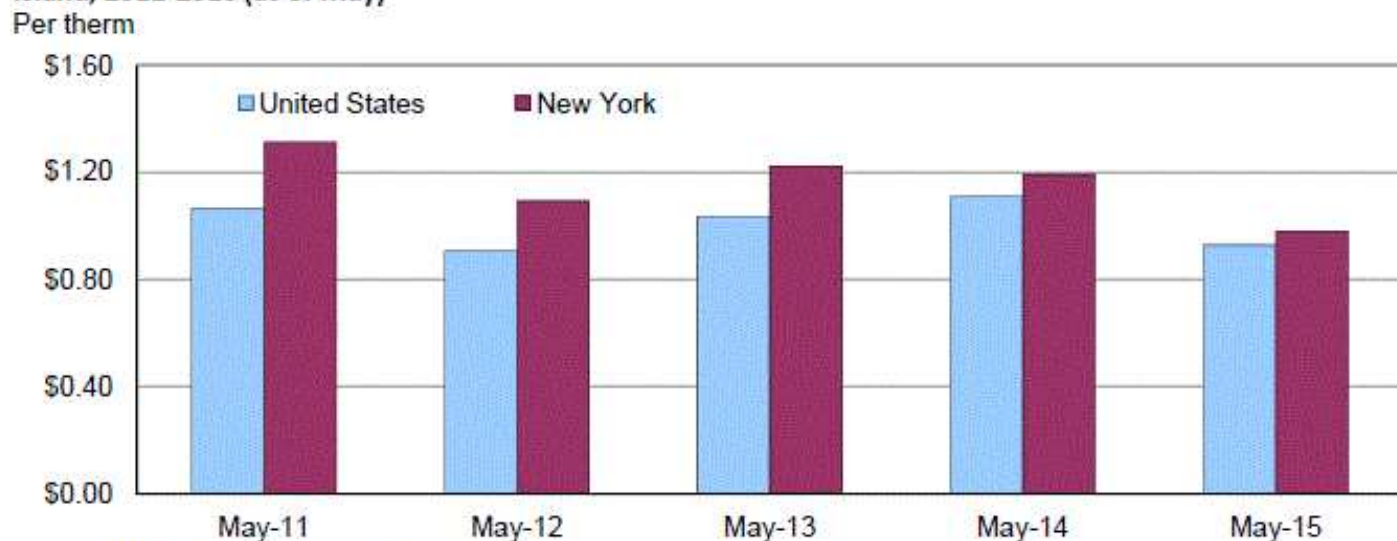
**Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, the United States and New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, 2011-2015 (as of May)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The average price paid by New York area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, was 98 cents per therm, or 5.4 percent above the national average in May 2015 (93 cents per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 7.6 percent more per therm of natural gas compared to the nation. From 2011 to 2013, the per-therm cost for natural gas in May exceeded the national average by at least 18 percent. (See [chart 3](#).)

**Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, the United States and New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, 2011-2015 (as of May)**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA) consists of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson,

Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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**The Consumer Price Index for June 2015 is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 17, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

### **Technical Note**

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm, are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island and the United States, May 2015, not seasonally adjusted**

Year and Month	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
	New York	United States	New York	United States	New York	United States
2014.....						
May.....	3.835	3.745	0.205	0.136	1.195	1.111
June.....	3.852	3.750	0.211	0.143	1.130	1.088
July.....	3.839	3.690	0.208	0.143	1.112	1.093
August.....	3.672	3.540	0.204	0.143	1.070	1.060
September.....	3.557	3.463	0.199	0.141	1.074	1.058
October.....	3.363	3.241	0.194	0.136	1.014	1.033
November.....	3.031	2.945	0.198	0.134	0.934	1.035
December.....	2.775	2.618	0.195	0.135	0.985	1.060
2015.....						
January.....	2.297	2.170	0.208	0.138	0.983	1.036
February.....	2.334	2.308	0.220	0.138	0.959	1.007
March.....	2.479	2.544	0.195	0.136	0.943	0.985
April.....	2.521	2.545	0.197	0.137	0.899	0.947
May.....	2.778	2.832	0.192	0.137	0.980	0.930